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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/853,274

Applicant(s)

MONROE, DAVID A.

Examiner

Tung Vo

Art Unit

2621

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1.6-31, 59-75 and 90-107 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-5, 32-58 and 78-89 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1.6-31, 59-75 and 90-107 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 1, 6-31, 59-75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as not falling within one of the four statutory categories of invention. Supreme Court precedent and recent Federal Circuit decisions indicate that a statutory “process” under 35 U.S.C. 101 must (1) be tied to another statutory category (such as a particular apparatus), or (2) transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or material) to a different state or thing. While the instant claim(s) recite a series of steps or acts to be performed, the claim(s) neither transform underlying subject matter nor positively tie to another statutory category that accomplishes the claimed method steps, and therefore do not qualify as a statutory process. For example there is no device recited within the claims to accomplish an inventive step(s) of the method claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-17, 21-58, and 62-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas et al. (US 2005/0198063).

Re claim 1, Thomas teaches a method for collecting image data with a camera at a remote location (304-306 of fig. 3) and transmitting over an internet protocol network transmitted data (224 of fig. 3, TO INTERNET), the transmitted data including at least one of compressed digital still image data and compressed digital motion video data (fig. 9A, e.g. 910 of fig. 9A), the method comprising the steps of:

collecting image data with the camera at the remote location (302-306 of fig. 3), the collected image data being related to a scene (e.g. Window, Room, Door, 308-312 of fig. 3), the collected data including uncompressed digital pixel data, the uncompressed digital pixel data including uncompressed digital pixel data of an original scene (note the camera 302 capture uncompressed images at different time, e.g. figs. 7A and 7B, e.g. 902-906 of fig. 9A), the uncompressed digital pixel data including uncompressed digital pixel data of a subsequent scene (e.g. figs. 7A and 7B), the uncompressed digital pixel data of the original scene being collected before the uncompressed digital pixel data of the subsequent scene (e.g. figs. 7A and 7B, e.g. 902-906 of fig. 9A);

comparing at the remote location the uncompressed digital pixel data of the original scene and the uncompressed digital pixel data of the subsequent scene to provide at least one motion difference value, the at least one motion difference value representing magnitude of change between the uncompressed digital pixel data of the original scene and the uncompressed digital pixel data of the subsequent scene (906 and 908 of fig. 9A);

transmitting (910-916 of fig. 9A) over the internet protocol network to a receiving station the transmitted data, the transmitted data being transmitted over the internet protocol network if the at least one difference value meets at least one threshold value (914 of fig. 9A), the at least one threshold value relating to modification of the original scene,

the transmitted data including at least one difference value and an image component, the image component including at least one of the following:

compressed digital still image data of the subsequent scene (910 of fig. 9A), and
compressed digital motion video data of the subsequent scene (910 of fig. 9A); and
displaying at the receiving station transmitted data (e.g. 948 of fig. 9C), the display of transmitted data including:

a graphical representation of the at least one difference value ([0061], note the transmission of the image and its notification for the interested user can both be performed by sending an electronic mail message to the interested person, where the electronic mail message includes a textual, visual or audio notification and may have the image being transmitted as an attachment to the electronic mail message). and at least one of the following:

compressed digital still image data of the subsequent scene (948 of fig. 9C), and
compressed digital motion video data of the subsequent scene (948 of fig. 9C).

Re claim 6, Thomas further teaches wherein comparing includes identifying change information, the change information including only digital pixel data altered from the original scene (fig. 7).

Re claim 14, Thomas further discloses displaying the transmitted data on a visual at the remote location, the transmitted data be selectively displayed at the monitor (948 of fig. 9C).

Re claim 15, Thomas further teaches wherein the transmitted data is displayed in near real-time (e.g. fig. 14).

Re claim 16, Thomas further teaches tagging the transmitted data with unique identifying data (e.g. 1402 of fig. 14).

Re claim 17, Thomas further teaches displaying with the transmitted data the unique identifying data is displayed with the displayed data (e.g. 1404 of fig. 14, 1604 of fig. 6).

Re claim 18, Thomas further teaches displaying with the transmitted data a map (e.g. 1604 of fig. 16)

Re claim 19, Thomas further discloses displaying on the map an icon representing each of a plurality of cameras (e.g. 1704, Cam 1 of fig. 17).

Re claim 20, Thomas further teaches activating a camera indicator (e.g. 1602 of fig. 16) when transmitted data from a corresponding camera is displayed (e.g. 1604 of fig. 16).

Re claim 21, Thomas further teaches storing the transmitted data at the remote location (e.g. 924 of fig. 9B).

Re claim 22, Thomas further teaches retrieving from the remote location the stored transmitted data (fig. 9C, 942 and 944 of fig. 9C).

Re claim 28, Thomas further teaches managing the transmitted data at the receiving station, wherein managing includes generating an alarm at the receiving station (e.g. fig. 16).

Re claim 29, Thomas further teaches displaying the transmitted data at the receiving station (e.g. figs. 14-17).

Re claim 30, Thomas generating an alarm and displaying the transmitted data at the receiving station (e.g. fig. 16).

Re claim 31, Thomas further teaches storing the transmitted data at the receiving station (e.g. 924 of fig. 9B).

Re claim 59, Thomas further teaches training the camera on an access control system at a facility at the remote location (e.g. 1416 of fig. 14); capturing image data of personnel attempting to gain access to a facility through the access control system (e.g. Living Room, 1402 of fig. 14); and logging all entry attempts in log data, the log data identifying all successful entry attempts and all unsuccessful attempts (e.g. fig. 15).

Re claim 60, Thomas further teaches searching the stored transmitted data for any combination of stored transmitted data (figs. 9C).

Re claim 61, Thomas further teaches retrieving stored transmitted data and log data (fig. 15).

Re claim 64, Thomas further teaches wherein the collecting includes collecting both digital still image data and digital motion video data (compress video image would obviously be digital data).

Re claim 65, Thomas further teaches compressing the uncompressed digital pixel data of the subsequent scene prior to transmitting (e.g. 910 of fig. 9A).

Re claim 66, Thomas further teaches wherein compressing further includes prior to compressing reducing in amount the uncompressed digital pixel data of the subsequent scene to be compressed without any loss of critical change data (e.g. 910 of fig. 9A).

Re claim 68, Thomas further teaches quantifying the change information (e.g. figs. 7A and 7B).

Re claim 69, Thomas further discloses providing a level of motion indicator quantifying the change information (908 of fig. 9A).

Re claim 70, Thomas further teaches applying pre-selected criteria to cause anticipated change information to be disregarded (figs. 14 and 15).

Re claim 72, Thomas further teaches managing the transmitted data at the receiving station by correlating motion between at least two cameras to determine if a motion detection event is identified (figs. 7A and 7B).

Re claim 73, Thomas further teaches controlling functions from a screen display (e.g. fig. 14-17)

Re claim 74, Thomas further teaches providing simultaneous access for at least screen displays each allowing functions to be controlled (e.g. figs. 14-17).

3. Claims 7-13, 23-27, 62-63, 67, and 71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas et al. (US 2005/0198063) in view of DaGraca et al. (US 6,646,676) .

Re claims 7-13, 23-27, 62-63, 67, and 71, Thomas further teaches wherein collecting includes collecting event data at the remote location (302-306 of fig. 3); identifying the event data (e.g. figs. 7A and 7B); determining the occurrence of an event by comparing at least one of the following: the uncompressed digital pixel data of the original scene and the uncompressed digital pixel data of the subsequent scene, the at least one motion difference value and the at least one threshold value, compressed digital still image data of the subsequent scene and compressed digital still image data of the original scene, compressed digital motion video data of the

subsequent scene and compressed digital motion video data of the original scene (e.g. figs. 7A and 7B).

It is noted that Thomas does not particularly teach generating a change histogram from the change information; masking a region of a scene in order to avoid comparing uncompressed digital pixel data in said region; tagging with unique identifying data the transmitted data; wherein tagging is performed at the remote location; wherein the identifying data includes a date and time of the subsequent scene; wherein the identifying data further includes a duration of the subsequent scene; wherein the identifying data further includes a camera identifier; defining blocks of data including at least one of the uncompressed digital pixel data and the compressed digital pixel data; tagging the blocks of data with a unique identifier; blocking at least one region of a scene to cause change information to be disregarded when identifying change information as claimed.

However, DaGraca teaches generating a change histogram from the change information (see col. 8, line 62-65); tagging with unique identifying data the transmitted data (see col. 6, line 47-67, i.e. the tagging data is governed by the content descriptions); wherein tagging is performed at the remote location (based on figs. 2-3, the content description i.e. tagging takes place at the surveillance & control system 300, which is at a remote location in the network; wherein the identifying data includes a date and time of the subsequent scene (see col. 6, lines 27-67. In this segment, the video data may also be tagged by user inputs, which include time/date customization); wherein the identifying data further includes a duration of the subsequent scene (see col. 6, line 27-67. In this segment, select frames for summarizing video of interest implies a specific duration of a security scene); wherein the identifying data further includes a camera

identifier (see fig. 2, the plurality of cameras is governed by 201-202, and since the cameras may be switched and video data may be routed in the network, see col. 7, line 1-8, camera identifiers would have been inherent and necessitated; Note Using MPEG-7 descriptors, and training data, it becomes possible to extract security events such as accidents, assaults, traffic violations, etc. NZ-NS surveillance can also be used in crowded stores to detect shop-lifting, or in casinos to detect cheating; this indicates that the camera has been identified); prioritizing the event data based on an event prioritization hierarchy to provide an event data priority (col. 6, line 1-5, 27-38, and/or col. 12, line 28-29, video data can also be prioritized by the description scheme instantiator, see col. 10, line 35-67; See also 340 of fig. 2, Note priorities can also be assigned as to the order of response activities); and wherein the transmitting includes selectively transmitting the transmitted data based on the event data priority (col. 12, line 20-45, i.e. prioritizing response activities is a form of managing prioritized signal at the local and/or remote surveillance station); defining blocks of data including at least one of the uncompressed digital pixel data and the compressed digital pixel data; tagging the blocks of data with a unique identifier (MPEG-based coding governs defining image data into blocks, and coding them according to block data identifiers, i.e. tags); blocking at least one region of a scene to cause change information to be disregarded when identifying change information (MPEG-based coding also governs this aspect via non-coding of background data, only the change between scenes).

Taking the combined teachings of Thomas and DaGraca as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of DaGraca into the method of Thomas to provide improved content-based access, therefore the description schemes that our

SCS will instantiate and the method of instantiation is unique to our system and will be described in the following sections.

4. Claims 90, 94-98, and 100-101 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. (US 6,493,466) in view of Shibata et al. (US 5,446,491).

Re claims 90 and 101, Honda teaches a camera (601 of fig. 6) adapted to be connected to a network (501 of fig. 5; Note synthesizing means for synthesizing information on the frame rate of the compressed image data, wherein MPEG would obviously has a packet that is transmitted over a communication, wherein the communication line is used in an image transmission system using a LAN of the Ethernet or the like sufficiently fast for transmitting digital image data, or a high-speed communication line, and is applied to a remote monitoring system, the LAN of the Ethernet would obviously be considered as a network, Fig. 7), the camera (601 of fig.6) adapted to capture a time series of still frame images in a field of view (JPEG compression), the time series of still frame images corresponding respectively to a time series of scenes in the field of view, the camera being adapted to transmit over the packet network sequences of data packets (110 of fig. 5), certain of the sequences each including a respective compressed set of digitized pixel data (109 of fig. 5), each compressed set of digitized pixel data representing a respective still frame image (JPEG compression encoder 109 of fig. 5), the camera comprising:

a digital encoder (100 of fig. 5) adapted to produce digitized pixel data in digital format, the digital encoder being operable to produce a first set of digitized pixel data representing a first still frame image of a first scene (JPEG compression is known for still image or frame compression), the digital encoder being operable to produce a second set of digitized pixel data

representing a second still frame image of a second scene (JPEG compression for second scene), the first scene preceding the second scene in the field of view;

a memory (602 of fig. 6, 101 of fig. 5, a digital image) adapted to store the first set of digitized, pixel data;

a difference algorithm (106 of figs. 5 and 9) embodied in suitable media, the difference algorithm when executed being adapted to produce a set of pixel difference values (901 and 902 of fig. 9, pixels units of images), the set of pixel difference values being calculated by comparison (903 of fig. 9) of digitized pixel data selected from the first set of digitized pixel data (901 of fig. 9) with corresponding digitized pixel data selected from the second set of digitized pixel data (902 of fig. 9), a selected set of pixel difference values (904 of fig. 9) being compared to at least one threshold value (905 and 906 of fig. 7, see 107 of fig. 5), comparison of the selected set of pixel difference values and the at least one threshold value providing an indicator (Determination Unit indicates a motion change or a change amount between images), the indicator in at least one potential circumstance providing indication of an event (change or not change within the scene);

a compression algorithm (109 of fig. 5) embodied in suitable media, the compression algorithm being executable to compress the second set of digitized pixel data only when the indicator provides indication of the event (change in the scene), the compression algorithm when executed being adapted to compress the second set or digitized pixel data to produce a compressed second set of digitized pixel data; and

the camera (601 of fig. 6) being adapted to send over the network in a second sequence of data packets the compressed second set of digitized pixel data only when the indicator provides

indication of the event (compressing when a large amount change, col. 11, lines 23-40) and at least one of the following:

the selected set of pixel difference values (extracted image or frame has a large change amount, col. 11, lines 28-33) and the indicator (an abnormality, col. 11, lines 25-27),

the second sequence of data packets being sent over the network only when the indicator provides indication of the event (col. 11, lines 23-33).

It is noted that Honda does not particularly teach or disclose a packet switching network in a sequence of compressed or encoded data packets and a network interface adapted to transmit over the packet switching network sequences of data packets, the network interface including a network stack adapted to produce data packets as claimed.

However, Shibata teaches a packet switch network for transmitting switched encoded video packets (406 of fig. 4; col. 5, lines 11-15) and a network interface (406 of fig. 4) adapted to transmit over the packet switching network sequences of data packets, the network interface including a network stack adapted to produce data packets.

Therefore, taking the teachings of Honda and Shibata as a whole it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the packet switch network of Shibata into the system of Honda in order to provide the camera system in which video communications to and from a plurality points can be implemented without using any connecting device dedicated to the communications.

Re claim 94, Honda further teaches at least one comparison value being derived from the selected set of pixel difference values, comparison of the at least one comparison value and the at least one threshold value providing the indicator (106 and 107 of fig. 9).

Re claim 95, Honda further discloses a processor adapted to drive execution of at least the difference algorithm (106 of fig. 9).

Re claim 96, Honda further discloses a memory adapted to store the second set of digitized pixel data (105 of fig. 5).

Re claim 97, Honda further teaches the difference algorithm being embodied in media which includes executable software (1914, 1913 of fig. 19).

Re claim 98, Honda further teaches the compression algorithm being embodied in media which includes an application specific integrated circuit (fig. 17).

Re claim 100, Honda further teaches a compression algorithm embodied in suitable media, the compression algorithm when executed being adapted, initially to compress the first set of digitized pixel data to produce a compressed first set of digitized pixel data (fig. 17); the camera being adapted initially to send over the packet switching network in a first sequence of data packets the compressed first set of digitized pixel data, the first sequence of data packets when sent over the packet switching network preceding the second sequence of data packets (501 of fig. 5).

5. Claims 90-93, 99, and 102-107 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. (US 6,493,466) in view of Shibata et al. (US 5,446,491) as applied to claim 90, and further in view of Brodsky et al. (US 6,731,805).

Re claims 90-93, 99, and 102-107, Honda teaches a camera (601 of fig. 6) adapted to be connected to a network (501 of fig. 5; Note synthesizing means for synthesizing information on the frame rate of the compressed image data, wherein MPEG would obviously has a packet that

is transmitted over a communication, wherein the communication line is used in an image transmission system using a LAN of the Ethernet or the like sufficiently fast for transmitting digital image data, or a high-speed communication line, and is applied to a remote monitoring system, the LAN of the Ethernet would obviously be considered as a network, Fig. 7), the camera (601 of fig.6) adapted to capture a time series of still frame images in a field of view (JPEG compression), the time series of still frame images corresponding respectively to a time series of scenes in the field of view, the camera being adapted to transmit over the packet network sequences of data packets (110 of fig. 5), certain of the sequences each including a respective compressed set of digitized pixel data (109 of fig. 5), each compressed set of digitized pixel data representing a respective still frame image (JPEG compression encoder 109 of fig. 5), the camera comprising:

a digital encoder (100 of fig. 5) adapted to produce digitized pixel data in digital format, the digital encoder being operable to produce a first set of digitized pixel data representing a first still frame image of a first scene (JPEG compression is known for still image or frame compression), the digital encoder being operable to produce a second set of digitized pixel data representing a second still frame image of a second scene (JPEG compression for second scene), the first scene preceding the second scene in the field of view;

a memory (602 of fig. 6, 101 of fig. 5, a digital image) adapted to store the first set of digitized, pixel data;

a difference algorithm (106 of figs. 5 and 9) embodied in suitable media, the difference algorithm when executed being adapted to produce a set of pixel difference values (901 and 902 of fig. 9, pixels units of images), the set of pixel difference values being calculated by

comparison (903 of fig. 9) of digitized pixel data selected from the first set of digitized pixel data (901 of fig. 9) with corresponding digitized pixel data selected from the second set of digitized pixel data (902 of fig. 9), a selected set of pixel difference values (904 of fig. 9) being compared to at least one threshold value (905 and 906 of fig. 7, see 107 of fig. 5), comparison of the selected set of pixel difference values and the at least one threshold value providing an indicator (Determination Unit indicates a motion change or a change amount between images), the indicator in at least one potential circumstance providing indication of an event (change or not change within the scene);

a compression algorithm (109 of fig. 5) embodied in suitable media, the compression algorithm being executable to compress the second set of digitized pixel data only when the indicator provides indication of the event (change in the scene), the compression algorithm when executed being adapted to compress the second set of digitized pixel data to produce a compressed second set of digitized pixel data; and

the camera (601 of fig. 6) being adapted to send over the network in a second sequence of data packets the compressed second set of digitized pixel data only when the indicator provides indication of the event (compressing when a large amount change; col. 11, lines 23-40) and at least one of the following:

the selected set of pixel difference values (extracted image or frame has a large change amount, col. 11, lines 28-33) and the indicator (an abnormality, col. 11, lines 25-27),

the second sequence of data packets being sent over the network only when the indicator provides indication of the event (col. 11, lines 23-33);

at least one comparison value being derived from the selected set of pixel difference values, comparison of the at least one comparison value and the at least one threshold value providing the indicator (106 and 107 of fig. 9);

a processor adapted to drive execution of at least the difference algorithm (106 of fig. 9); a memory adapted to store the second set of digitized pixel data (105 of fig. 5); the difference algorithm being embodied in media which includes executable software (1914, 1913 of fig. 19); the compression algorithm being embodied in media which includes an application specific integrated circuit (fig. 17); a compression algorithm embodied in suitable media, the compression algorithm when executed being adapted, initially to compress the first set of digitized pixel data to produce a compressed first set of digitized pixel data (fig. 17); the camera being adapted initially to send over the network in a first sequence of data packets the compressed first set of digitized pixel data, the first sequence of data packets when sent over the packet switching network preceding the second sequence of data packets (501 of fig. 5).

It is noted that Honda does not particularly teach or disclose a packet switching network in a sequence of compressed or encoded data packets and a network interface adapted to transmit over the packet switching network sequences of data packets, the network interface including a network stack adapted to produce data packets as claimed.

However, Shibata teaches a packet switch network for transmitting switched encoded video packets (406 of fig. 4; col. 5, lines 11-15) and a network interface (406 of fig. 4) adapted to transmit over the packet switching network sequences of data packets, the network interface including a network stack adapted to produce data packets.

Therefore, taking the teachings of Honda and Shibata as a whole it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the packet switch network of Shibata into the system of Honda in order to provide the camera system in which video communications to and from a plurality points can be implemented without using any connecting device dedicated to the communications; and the combination of Honda, Shibata, and Brodsky further teaches the camera being adapted to send over the packet switching network in a sequence of data packets a set of data representing the histogram and the compressed second set of digitized pixel data (406 of fig. 4, Shibata), such that recipient monitoring station can display for viewing the histogram (1204 of fig. 12, Honda), the compressed selected set of digitized pixel data (100 of fig. 5, Honda).

It is further noted that the combination of Honda and Shibata does not particularly teach the difference algorithm when executed being adapted to produce a histogram, the histogram summarizing a selected set of pixel difference values; the camera being adapted to send over the packet switching network in a sequence of data packets a set of data representing the histogram; the histogram including a set of indicator bar values, each indicator bar value corresponding to a respective region of the field of view, each indicator bar value representing a selected set of pixel difference values in the respective region; each histogram bar value representing a count of a selected set of pixel difference values each exceeding a threshold value in the respective region as claimed.

However, Brodsky teaches difference algorithm (20 of fig. 1) when executed being adapted to produce a histogram (col. 14, lines 18-37), the histogram summarizing a selected set of pixel difference values (col. 14, lines 24-25); the camera being adapted to send over the

packet switching network in a sequence of data packets a set of data representing the histogram (the combination of Honda and Shibata); the histogram including a set of indicator bar values (figs. 5A and 5B), each indicator bar value (a and b of figures 5A and 5B) corresponding to a respective region of the field of view, each indicator bar (4.6-4.7, number of pixels is 10, see fig. 5A) value representing a selected set of pixel difference values in the respective region (a of fig. 5A); each histogram bar value representing a count of a selected set of pixel difference values each exceeding a threshold value in the respective region (col. 14, lines 31-37).

Therefore, taking the teachings of Honda, Shibata, and Brodsky as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Brodsky into the combined teachings of Honda and Shibata in order to provide a highly accurate system for detecting events in surveillance video without a high incidence of incorrect identifications of such event.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Jones et al. (US 5,587,928) discloses computer conferencing method and apparatus.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7340. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tung Vo/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621